

Message Text

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ORIGIN COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 CG-00 H-03 DLOS-06

L-03 INT-08 AGR-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

TRSE-00 /090 R

66604

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1/3/74 EXT. 22047

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R 031743Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, ENRG, IT

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF FUEL OIL FOR ITALIAN FISHING
VESSELS

REF: ROME 14260; STATE 250092

1. FUEL OIL ALLOCATION FOR ITALIAN FISHING VESSELS CALLING
AT US PORTS IS PRESCRIBED IN THE MANDATORY FUEL ALLOCATION
REGULATIONS SUBPART F, MIDDLE DISTILLATES SECTIONS 200.44
THROUGH 200.50. SUBPART F, WHICH WILL BECOME OPERATIVE
ON JAN 15 ESTABLISHES AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION INCLUDING
FISHING OPERATIONS AS A CATEGORY II USE. FUEL IS TO BE
MADE AVAILABLE FOR CATEGORY II USES AFTER ALL CATEGORY I
ALLOCATION REQUIREMENTS OF A SUPPLIER HAVE BEEN MET. EACH
SUPPLIER IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE FUEL TO THOSE PURCHASERS
HE WAS SUPPLYING AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 1973. ANY END-USE
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PURCHASER (FISHING VESSEL) WHICH DID NOT HAVE A SUPPLIER

DURING 1972 MAY APPLY TO BE ASSIGNED A SUPPLIER, A CATEGORY CLASSIFICATION AND AN ADJUSTED BASE PERIOD VOLUME. CATEGORY II USERS WILL BE ALLOCATED AN EQUITABLE SHARE OF THE FUEL REMAINING AFTER THE CATEGORY I NEEDS ARE MET.

2. FYI THE REGULATIONS DO NOT DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN US AND FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS. FEDERAL ENERGY OFFICE POLICY IS THAT AVAILABLE FUEL SUPPLIES WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS TO VESSELS SUPPLYING US DOMESTIC FISH MARKET. ITALIAN FISHING VESSELS, AS ALL FOREIGN VESSELS, PROHIBITED FROM LANDING THEIR CATCH IN US AND SINCE ITALY EXPORTS SMALL AMOUNT FISH PRODUCTS TO US, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT ITALIAN VESSELS WILL BE GIVEN EQUAL STATUS WITH US FISHING VESSELS. WHILE THERE IS APPARENTLY NO FISHING VESSEL FUEL SHORTAGE CURRENTLY, NEW ENGLAND INDUSTRY AND PUBLIC ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO FUELING FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS. BECAUSE OF THE ABOVE WE BELIEVE GOI SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT US IS IN PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING POLICY TOWARDS FUELING FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS. WHILE THE USG MUST GIVE PRIORITY TO THOSE VESSELS WHICH SUPPLY ITS DOMESTIC MARKETS IT WILL TO THE DEGREE FEASIBLE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEEDS OF FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS WITH THE VIEW OF INSTITUTING NON-DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES. WE ARE UNABLE TO GUARANTEE THE AVAILABILITY OF FUEL SUPPLIES FOR ITALIAN FISHING VESSELS AND ENCOURAGE THEIR USE OF FUEL SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN THE US.

3. AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE WE WILL ADVISE. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIPS, FUEL OIL, PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, PARITY PRICES, FUELING SYSTEMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE000776
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PAWELLING:LK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740164/aaaacibw.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN COA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ROME 14260; STATE 250092
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <23 MAY 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AVAILABILITY OF FUEL OIL FOR ITALIAN FISHING VESSELS
TAGS: EFIS, ENRG, IT
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005